



MICHAEL JURELY

TOLL OF VIOLENT DEATHS IN COUNTY BIG OVER SUNDAY

One of the most terrible tragedies which has befallen this county since the war broke out in Europe, was the death of a young man, who was killed in the line of duty, Sunday morning, December 13th, at the age of 21 years. The deceased was a member of the local fire department, and was on duty at the time of the fire which broke out at the residence of the late Mrs. J. W. Smith, on the corner of Main and Third streets. The fire was caused by a gas stove, and the firemen were unable to reach the fire in time to save the young man's life. The deceased was a very popular young man, and his death has caused much sorrow to his family and friends.

INSTITUTE OPENS

The County Assembly, which was organized last year, has opened its sessions for the year 1914-15. The assembly is composed of representatives from each of the townships in the county, and its purpose is to promote the interests of the county and to improve the condition of the roads and bridges. The assembly will meet on Monday, December 14th, at 10 o'clock, at the courthouse in Conneltsville. The assembly will be presided over by the county judge, and the clerk of the assembly will be the county clerk.

PINCH VANDERBILT ROBBERS

Four men in Conneltsville, Pa., are being held by the sheriff's office on charges of robbing the Vanderbilt Hotel. The men were arrested on Sunday, December 13th, and are being held in the county jail. The sheriff's office is conducting a search for the men, and has offered a reward of \$1,000 for information leading to their capture. The Vanderbilt Hotel is one of the most famous hotels in the world, and the robbery is a very serious one.

THE LAWS AGAIN

The county assembly has passed a resolution to oppose the proposed amendment to the constitution of the state. The amendment would give the governor the power to appoint and remove judges, and the assembly believes that this would be a dangerous precedent. The assembly will continue to oppose the amendment, and will take whatever action is necessary to prevent its passage.

WILL WED WEDNESDAY

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Smith will be married on Wednesday, December 16th, at 2 o'clock, at the residence of the bride's parents. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Smith, and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Smith. The wedding will be a very simple one, and the reception will be held at the residence of the bride's parents.

LAWYERS MEET

The lawyers of the county will meet on Monday, December 14th, at 10 o'clock, at the courthouse in Conneltsville. The meeting is for the purpose of discussing the proposed amendment to the constitution of the state, and the lawyers will discuss the merits and demerits of the amendment.

ITCHED FOR 20 YEARS, RESINOL CURED IN 10 DAYS

Resinol is a powerful skin medicine which has been used for many years. It is particularly effective in the treatment of itching skin, and has been found to be a cure for many cases of chronic itching. Resinol is made from natural ingredients, and is completely safe and harmless. It is available in the form of a cream, ointment, or powder, and can be used on any part of the body. For more information, see the advertisement on page 1.

SOCIETY.

The Ladies' Aid Society will meet on Monday, December 14th, at 8 o'clock, at the residence of Mrs. J. W. Smith. The society is a very active one, and has been successful in many of its projects. The next project of the society is to raise money for the purchase of a new building for the church.

CHRISTIANITY

The Christian church in Conneltsville will hold a service on Sunday, December 13th, at 10 o'clock. The service will be held in the church, and will be a very special one. The church is a very active one, and has been successful in many of its projects.

WILL FORTHIN LIVES WORK CLUB

The Will FORTHIN LIVES WORK CLUB will meet on Monday, December 14th, at 8 o'clock, at the residence of Mrs. J. W. Smith. The club is a very active one, and has been successful in many of its projects. The next project of the club is to raise money for the purchase of a new building for the church.

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ALASKA COAL MINING HAS PROSPEROUS FUTURE

The coal industry in Alaska has a very bright future, and is expected to become one of the most important industries in the state. The coal fields in Alaska are very large, and the coal is of a high quality. The coal industry in Alaska is expected to become one of the most important industries in the state, and is expected to provide a great deal of employment for the people of Alaska.

SHELL SUPPLY INADEQUATE

The supply of shells for the navy is inadequate, and the navy is expected to have a great deal of trouble in obtaining the shells it needs. The navy is expected to have a great deal of trouble in obtaining the shells it needs, and is expected to have a great deal of trouble in obtaining the shells it needs.

STARK TALKS TO BOY

Stark talks to a boy, and the boy is very happy. Stark is a very kind man, and the boy is very happy to talk to him. Stark is a very kind man, and the boy is very happy to talk to him.

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Offers you the following list of goods suitable for gifts. Read them over carefully and see if they do not fill your Christmas wants. There are hundreds of other items here for your choosing. Why not call in and see all the pretty things on display?

What 25c will Buy

Gloves	Hosiery	Neckwear	Ribbons	Handkerchiefs	Collars	Cuff Sets	Mittens	Perfumes	Scarf Pins	Ties	Brooches	Combs	Back Combs	Neckties	Beads
Fowls	Appons	Baskets	Boils	Bibs	Doilies	Frames	Vases	Mirrors	Flowers	Napkins	Phonographs	Butters	Trays	Puff Boxes	Barrettes
Shaving Sets	Glove Boxes	Hdkf. Boxes	Ash Trays	Scrap Baskets	Jewel Boxes	Cuff Links	Stick Pins	Bar Pins	Pillow Tops	Ear Drops	Comb Sets	Brush Sets	Hair Brushes	Knit Goods	Corset Covers

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Gifts of Brass IN DESK SETS, LETTER RACKS, AND SMOKING SETS are just what you want for that fastidious friend

Stauffer's Book Store

HAS THEM SELECT THEM NOW

BETTER THAN CALOMEL

Thousands Have Discovered Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets are a Harmless Substitute

Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets—the substitute for calomel—are a mild but sure laxative and their effect on the liver is almost instantaneous. They are the result of Dr. Edwards' determination not to rest until he had discovered a harmless substitute for calomel.

For pleasant relief of the bowels, take a good laxative, but not a harsh one. Calomel is a harsh laxative, and its use is dangerous. Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets are a mild but sure laxative, and their effect on the liver is almost instantaneous.

It is best not to take calomel, but to let Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets take its place. Most physicians, druggists, and chemists have discovered the value of Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets, and they are now recommending them to their patients.

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The Daily Courier.

Published by THE DAILY COURIER COMPANY, Inc., at Conneltsville, Pa.

MONDAY, EVENING, DEC. 14, 1914.

HOME CHURCH.

At the home church, the service was held at 8 o'clock. The choir sang "The Christmas Song" and "The Little Drummer Boy." The pastor, Rev. J. H. Smith, gave the invocation and the sermon. The collection was \$15.00. The service was well attended.

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LOCAL EXTENSION.

The local extension of the Union Supply Company is now open. It is located at 104 W. Main St. and is well equipped with all the latest in Christmas goods. The prices are very low and the service is excellent.

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A BRAND NEW TEST.

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THE HANCOCK TEST.

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"ON THE TRAIL OF THE LONESOME PINE"



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS.

One Cent a Word. No Advertisement for Less Than One Cent. Classified advertisements are published at the rate of one cent a word for the first week, and one-half cent a word for each subsequent week. Advertisements for real estate, legal notices, and other special classes are charged at special rates.

Wanted.

WANTED - A GOOD TAILOR. I am looking for a good tailor to make suits for me. The tailor should be able to make suits in the latest style and at a reasonable price. If interested, please call on me at my home.

For Rent.

FOR RENT - A HOUSE. I have a house for rent. It is a two-story house with a large front porch. The house is in good condition and is located in a quiet neighborhood. The rent is very reasonable. If interested, please call on me.

For Sale.

FOR SALE - A CAR. I have a car for sale. It is a new car and is in excellent condition. The car is very comfortable and easy to drive. The price is very low. If interested, please call on me.

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FOR SALE - A HOUSE. I have a house for sale. It is a two-story house with a large front porch. The house is in good condition and is located in a quiet neighborhood. The price is very reasonable. If interested, please call on me.

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FOR SALE - A CAR. I have a car for sale. It is a new car and is in excellent condition. The car is very comfortable and easy to drive. The price is very low. If interested, please call on me.

For Sale.

FOR SALE - A HOUSE. I have a house for sale. It is a two-story house with a large front porch. The house is in good condition and is located in a quiet neighborhood. The price is very reasonable. If interested, please call on me.

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Abe Martin.



REMEMBER

That we have every facility for turning out neat printing of all kinds. Letter heads, bill heads, office stationery, etc., furnished at the lowest prices first class work will permit.

Have You Thought About

WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO PAY FOR A CHRISTMAS GIFT? \$1.00 or \$1.50. Then why not SLIPPERS. Useful, and appreciated.

For Men, Women, Boys, Girls, Children



Down's Shoe Store

"The Store That Gives Quality."

Even if YOUR figure is unusual—mine is just right! I never OVERCHARGE. I make suits that suit in EVERY way—This means PRICE as well as fit.

SUITS AND OVERCOATS \$15 TO \$75

H. J. BOSLET

THE TAILOR

I PUT THE HARD TO IT. YOUR CREDIT IS GOOD HERE.

122 South Pittsburg Street, Conneltsville, Pa.

Leave Your Order Now For Christmas Gifts.

Open Evenings. Repairing and Pressing.

Shop Early OR Shop Late

No matter whether you do your Christmas shopping early or late, or when it best suits your convenience, you will always find every Union Supply Company store fully prepared to supply your wants, to give you prompt, courteous service and immediate delivery. We have fully prepared for the Christmas rush, and have ample forces and facilities to handle our Christmas trade in such manner that it will be a pleasure to you to do your shopping at one of our stores at any time. We have also provided ample stocks to select from, not alone for children, but for every member of the household. These are too numerous to mention suffice it to say that you will be amply repaid for a visit to one of our stores, and we guarantee you better service and better prices than you can get elsewhere.

Union Supply Company

63 Large Department Stores,

Located in Fayette, Westmoreland and Allegheny

Counties.

If Hooper & Long

Cannot show you just what you want to buy in either

Christmas Shoes or Slippers

You'll have a hard time to get them anywhere.

They always show the largest and best line of Christmas Footwear, and at prices that's a real saving.

HOOPER & LONG

104 W. Main St.

First Quality Rubbers to Fit Any Shoes.

REGAL

A SMALL STILL FOR EVERY OCCASION

The Dresden

\$4.00

For shopping, for calling, for afternoon teas, for receptions for theatre or opera.

We have a Women's Regal that fits the foot and benefits the occasion. Graceful in line, choice in material and soothing in comfort.

REGAL SHOE STORE

CROWLEY-MESTREZAT CO.

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FIRE WARNING

Yough Trust Company,
CONNELLVILLE, PA.

By C. A. Voight.

PETEY DINK—The Time, the Girl, but NOT the PLACE.



B. & O. WINDS UP PROGRAM OUTLINED BY ITS PRESIDENT

Magnolia Cut-Off Completed at a Cost of \$100,000,000.

REMARKABLE ENGINEERING FEAT

Trains Problems of Years' Standing Finally Solved. Lasting Improvement Will Most Over Reduced Track East of Cumberland.

With the opening of the Magnolia cut-off, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad has solved a problem which has troubled it for years. The cut-off, which is 1.5 miles long, will eliminate the sharp curve at the junction of the main line and the branch line to Cumberland. This will allow for faster travel and reduce the wear on the tracks.

The cut-off was completed at a cost of \$100,000,000. It is a remarkable engineering feat, as it involves the construction of a new line through a heavily wooded area. The work was completed in a matter of months.

The cut-off will allow for faster travel and reduce the wear on the tracks. It is a remarkable engineering feat, as it involves the construction of a new line through a heavily wooded area. The work was completed in a matter of months.

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HIGH STEAM SHOWS IN MOVING TONS OF WOOD FROM HILL ALSO MAGNOLIA CUT OFF

HUMAN INTEREST TALES OF THE WAR

Associated Press. (Continued from page 5.)

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MEN

Get Vitality, Strength And Vigor

The men of the world are the backbone of the nation. They are the ones who build and create. They are the ones who lead and inspire.

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Soisson Paving Block

A Synonym for Excellence.

Abrasion Loss per cent ... 19.26
Absorption Gain per cent ... 2.25
Crushing Strength per sq in. 12,775 lbs
Pittsburgh Testing Laboratory, Oct. 11, 1911 John M. Bailey, Secretary

Shipments during month of October, 9 in. count, 2,088,963.

75% of our ten plants running full on Paving Block and High Grade Building Brick.

Joseph Soisson Fire Brick Co. CONNELLSVILLE, PA.

Efficient Service and Courteous Treatment

Has enabled us within the past year to double the number of our customers. Quite a number of persons and societies with surplus funds who do not want to tie up their money subject to the rules of a regular 4% account also taking advantage of our special 3% accounts. If you are a customer at this bank you will find us willing to extend any reasonable accommodation on satisfactory security.

Our Customers Always Receive the Preference. If you have a little ready money it will pay you to open an account with us, become acquainted and take advantage of our service.

The Colonial National Bank

of Connellsville, Pa. Main and Pittsburg Sts. 1% interest paid on Certificates and Time Deposits. Foreign Department equipped to give the best of service.

MONEY FOR XMAS

If you need money to do your Xmas shopping we can accommodate you. Loans made from \$10 to \$100 on Furniture, Pianos, Records, Steel Stock or anything of value. Can repay on easy installments to suit your income.

FAYETTE BROKERAGE COMPANY, Room 207, Title & Trust Building, Connellsville, Pa.

Yes, Papa And Mama Santa Claus,

It's true you can open a savings account with this strong bank with \$1 for Christmas gift for any child in whom you are interested.

And it's equally true that there is no other gift in the world that will do a child more lasting good.

4% INTEREST

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

The Bank That Does Things For You. 120 W. Main St., Connellsville. Safe Deposit Boxes for Rent.

J. B. KURTZ, NOTARY PUBLIC AND REAL ESTATE. No. 3 South Meadow Lane, Connellsville, Pa.

WEAR Horner's Clothing

I wouldn't marry the best woman living. It would give her a comfortable feeling if she knew it, probably.

Turn Over a New Leaf

By subscribing for THIS PAPER

AMERICAN RED CROSS

STEEL CORPORATION MEN MAY NOT GET STOCK OFFER

Impression Prevails That No Subscriptions Will Be Opened for Employees This Year

Christmas

A Story

by Lona Gale

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Ebenezer was blank. "Jenny?" he said. "Jenny? I heard she was here. I don't see her. Is she bound to keep Christmas anyhow?"

"Just white goods it was," said Abel briefly.

Ebenezer frowned at lack of understanding. "I shouldn't think her and Bruce had much of anything to buy anything with," he said. "I know you know," he added. "That Bruce, the young fellow, quit working for me in the city after the failure? There's up his job with me and took, God knows, what to do."

Abel nodded gravely. All Old Trail Town knew that and honored Bruce for it.

"Headstrong couple," Ebenezer added. "So Jenny's bent on having Christmas, no matter what the town decides, is she?" he added. "It's like her, the miss."

"I don't think it was planned that way," Abel said simply. "She's only having white goods," he repeated. And Ebenezer still staring, "Surely you know what Jenny's come home for?" Abel said.

A moment or two later Ebenezer was out on the street again. His face turned over the factory. He was aware of Abel caught open the door behind him and called after him. "Whenever you get ready to sell me that there fur class, you know?" Ebenezer answered something, but his responses were so off a natural and indolent that he felt his will to reply was a good deal away. He also felt that just before him, Buff, who was proceeding with the snow-know, cutting a firm, white way, with and sparkling for soft tread, and that tumbled and heaped and then came in a glitter of crystals. But thought went on without these without his will.

CHAPTER VII.

A Christmas Carol.

BUTTEN baby! It would be a fine too. The third generation, the third generation, and remembered as he was to relate every experience to him, self, moment by moment, it was his own duty to him, the effect of his relation was at first single—the third generation of himself. Was he as old as that?

It seemed only yesterday that Bruce had been a boy in a blue necktie to match his eyes, and shoes which for some reason he always put on wrong, so that the buttons were on the inside. "You're baby! Good heavens! It had been a shock when Bruce graduated from the high school, a shock when he had married, but his baby! It was incredible that he himself should be so old as that!

This meant, then, that if Malcolm had lived Malcolm might have had a child now.

Ebenezer had not meant to think that. It was as if the thought came, and spoke to him. He never allowed himself to think of that other life of his, when his wife, Letty, and his son, Malcolm, had been living. Nobody in Old Trail Town ever heard him speak of them or had ever been answered when Ebenezer had been spoken to concerning them. A high white shaft in the cemetery marked the two graves. All about them doors had been closed, but with the thought of this third generation the doors all opened. He looked along ways that he had forgotten.

As he went he was unconscious, as he was always unconscious, of the life street. He saw the market square, not as the heart of the town, but as a place for buying and selling, and the little shops were to him not ways of providing the town with life, but ways of providing their keepers with a livelihood. Beyond these was a familiar setting, arranged that day with white background and humped roofs and laden, brightly, the houses shining side by side like human beings. There they were, like the chorus to the thing he was thinking about. They were all thinking about it too. Every one of them knew what he knew. Yet he never saw the hand, but he thought they were only the places where men lived who had been his factory hands and would be so yet if he had not cut them away. Ben Turley, shoveling off his front walk with his boy sweeping behind him; Anne's maid, giving his little girl a ride on the snow sled; Della Hark, carrying the ice out of her milk box, while her sister—the large one—watched from her chair by the window, interested as in a real event. Ebenezer spoke to them from some outposts of consciousness which his thought did not pass. The little street was not there as it was never there for him as an entity. It was merely a street. And the little town was not an entity. It was merely where he lived. It went behind Buff Miles and the snowplow—as he always



It Was Malcolm's Hobbyhorse, Dropped Gray.

mercifully unaged birds lived there.

When he had gone through the files of account books in a closet and those he sought were not found among them he remembered the trunkful up in the tiny loft. He let down from the passage ceiling the ladder he had once hung there and climbed up to the little roof recess.

Light entered through four broken panes of skylight. It fell in a fair rug on the dusty floor. The roof sloped sharply and the trunks and boxes had been pressed back to the rim of the place. Ebenezer put his hands out, groping. They touched an edge of something that swayed. He held hold or it drew it out and set down on the faint ring of light a small wooden hobbyhorse.

He stood staring at it, remembering it as clearly as if some one had set before him the old white gate which he had strode in his own boyhood. It was Malcolm's hobbyhorse, dappled gray, the tall and the mane missing and the paint worn off—and tenderly looked off—his nose. When they had moved to the other house he had bought the boy a pony, and this horse had been left behind. Something else suited in his memory, the name by which Malcolm had used to call his hobbyhorse, some ringing name—but he had forgotten. He thrust the thing back where it had been and went on with his search for the account books.

By the time he had found them and had got down again in the office the bookkeeper was there, keeping up the fire and uttering, with some acumen, comments on the obvious aspects of the weather, of the climate, of the visible universe. The bookkeeper was a young man, very ready to agree with Ebenezer for the sake of future favor, but with the selfishness of all industrial machines, constructed by men from human potentialities. Also he had a cough and thin hands and a little family and no job.

"Get to work on this book," Ebenezer bade him. "It's the one that began the business."

"I don't think it seems"—the man began doubtfully.

"Well, don't think," said Ebenezer sharply. "That's not needful. Read the first entries."

The bookkeeper read:

Picking hops (four days) \$3.00
Sewing (Mrs. Shadlock)25
Saw money (G. J. Decker)25
Winding puzzle25
..... \$3.75

Disbursed:

Kitchen roller \$.30
Coffee mill20
Shoes for M. 1.10
Water colors for M.50
Suit for M. 1.50
Gloves—me50
..... \$3.80

Cash on hand—25 cents.

The bookkeeper paused again. Ebenezer, frowning, reached for the book. In his left hand he held writing over her accounts—after the 25 cents was a funny little face with which she had been wont to illustrate her letters. Ebenezer stared, turned to the last page of the book. There in bold figures, the other way of the leaf, was his own accounting. He remembered now—he had kept his first books in the back of the account book that she had used for the house.

Ebenezer glanced sharply at his bookkeeper. To his annoyance the man was smiling with perfect comprehension and sympathy. Ebenezer averted his eyes, and the bookkeeper felt that he had been guilty of an indelicacy toward his employer.

"Family life does cling to a man, sir," he said.

"Do you find it so?" said Ebenezer sharply. "Read, please."

At noon Ebenezer walked home alone through the melting snow. And he thought that he did not think, but that spoke to him without his knowing, said:

"Winning a puzzle—\$2.50. She never told me she tried to earn a little something that way."

CHAPTER VIII.

"About" Mary Chavah.

IF we took the day before Christmas as our end for Christmas," observed Tab Winslow, "would that hurt?"

"Eat your oatmeal," said Mrs. Winslow in the immemorial manner of adults.

"Would it, would it, would it?" persisted Tab in the immemorial manner of youth.

"And have Theophilus 'thrust-down' for dinner that day instead?" Mrs. Winslow suggested with diplomacy.

On which Tab ate his oatmeal in silence.

But, like adults become normally, Mrs. Winslow bore the adult manner more than his heart. After breakfast she stood staring out the pantry window at the sparrows on the blue box.

"If I be the only one in Trail Town to have any Christmas after all," she thought, "that little boy coming to her, so."

He was coming week after next, Mary had said, and Mrs. Winslow had heard no word about it from anywhere else. When "the biggest of the work" of the forenoon was finished Mrs. Winslow ran down the road to Ellen Bourne's. In Old Trail Town they always spent it as it running down, or in, or over, in the morning with an unconscious setting of terms to formalities.

Ellen was cleaning her silver. She had "six or each—six knives, six forks, six spoons, all plated and seldom used, pocket with black handles serving for every day. The silver was cleaned plain, though having been on the table, save for company, and therefore had been any company since Ellen had lost her little boy from fever. Having no articulation and

having no other outlet for emotion she fed her grief by small abstentions—no guests, no diversions, no snatches of song about her work. Yet she was sane enough and normal, only in dearth of sane and normal outlets for emotion, for energy, for personality she had taken these strange directions for yet unimpaired forces.

"Mercy," observed Mrs. Winslow, warning her hands at the cooking stove, "you got more energy!"

"—than family, I guess you mean," Ellen Bourne flushed. Ellen was little and fair, with slightly drooping head, and eyebrows curved to a childlike reflectiveness.

"Well, I got considerable more family than I got energy," said Mrs. Winslow, "so I guess we even it up. Seven under fifteen cuts up energy like 90 much air."

"Hey, king and country!" said Ellen's old father, whittling by the fire, "you got family enough, Ellen. You got your hands full of us." He rubbed his hands through his thin upstanding silver hair on his little pink head, and his face, pink face took on the look of fatherly which eagerly listened, now, on his settled look of old man.

"I don't want what she'd do," said Ellen's mother, "with any more around here to pick up after. We're cluttered up enough as it is." She was an old lady of whose outlines you took notice before your attention lay further upon her—angled waist, chin, lips, forehead, put on her a succession of zigzags. But her eyes were awake, and it was to be seen that she did not mean what she said and that she was looking anxiously at Ellen in the hope of having deceived her daughter. Ellen smiled at her brightly, and was not deceived.

"I keep pretty busy," she said.

Mrs. Abby Winslow, who was not deceived either, hastened to the subject of Mary.

"I should think Mary Chavah had enough to do, too," she said, "but she's going to take Lily's little boy. And you heard?"

"No," Ellen said, and stopped shaving silver polish.

"He's coming in two weeks," Mrs. Winslow inquired. "She told me so herself. She's got her room fixed up with ovals on the wall paper. She's bought him a wash basin with a rim of puppies and a red stocking cap. I saw her."

"How old is he?" Ellen asked and worked again.

"I never thought to ask her," Mrs. Winslow confessed. "He must be quite a little fellow. But he's coming alone from some place out west."

"Hey, king and country!" Ellen's father said. "I'd hate to have a boy come here with my head the way it is."

"And keeping the house of us!" Ellen's mother said, and asked Mrs. Winslow some question about Mary; and when she turned to Ellen again, "Why," Ellen Bourne," she said, "you've shaved up every bit of that cleaning polish, and we're most done cleaning."

Ellen was looking at Mrs. Winslow. "If you see her," Ellen said, "you ask her if I can't do anything to help."

Later in the day, happening in at Mrs. Mortimer Bates, Mrs. Winslow found Mrs. Moran there before her and asked what they had heard about Mary Chavah. "Something in that word about" prices curiously sharp.

"Have you heard about Mary Chavah?" "Yes," Mrs. Bates said. "She's been about Mary Chavah." "That's it over about Mary Chavah?" Each of these is like setting flame to an edge of tissue. Omit "about" from the language, and you have most gossip. At Mrs. Winslow's phrase both women's eyebrows curved to another arc.

Mrs. Winslow told them.

"Ain't that nice?" said Mrs. Moran whole heartedly. "I couldn't bring up another, not with my back. But I'm glad Mary's going to know what it is."

Mrs. Mortimer Bates was glad, too, but being by nature a nonconformist, she took exception.

"It's an awful undertaking for a single handed woman," she observed. "But this sort of thing she said at most unconsciously, and the other two women regarded it with no more alarm than any other remark.

"It's no worse starting single handed than being left single handed," offered Mrs. Winslow somewhat ambiguously. "Let's discuss that thrifty."

"Seems as if we could do a little something to help her get ready, seems so," Mrs. Moran suggested. "I can't do it."

"I thought I'd slip over after supper and ask her," Mrs. Winslow said. "Maybe I'd best go now—and come back and tell you what she says."

Mrs. Winslow found Mary Chavah sitting by her pattern book, cutting out a pattern. Mary's face was washed and her eyes were bright, and she went on with her pattern, thrilled by it as by any other creature.

"I just thought of this," Mary explained, looking vaguely at her visitor. "I come to me like a flash when I was working on 'Mrs. Bates' blouse. Will you wait just a minute, and then I'll explain it out to you."

Without invitation, Mrs. Winslow laid aside her coat and waited, watching Mary curiously. She was cutting and folding and pinning her tissue paper, oblivious of any presence. Along, suggestive, doubt, solution, triumph, came and went, and neither woman was conscious that the flame of creation burned and breathed in the room as truly as if the product were to be acknowledged.

"There!" Mary cried at last. "See it—can't you see it—in gray wool?"

It was the pattern for a boy's topcoat, cunningly cut in new lines of seam and revers, with a pocket, a bit of hand, a line of buttons laid in as delicately as the factors in any other good composition. Mrs. Winslow intuitively recognized its utility, exclaimed, and wondered.

Mary Chavah, how did you know how to do things for children?"

"How did you know how?" Mary inquired coolly.

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"Why, I've had 'em," Mrs. Winslow offered simply.

"Do you honestly think that makes any difference?" Mary asked.

Mrs. Winslow gasped in the immemorial belief that the physical basis of



"See it—can't you see it—in gray wool?"

motherhood is the guarantee of both spiritual and physical equipment.

"Could you have cut out that coat?" Mary asked.

Mrs. Winslow shook her head. She was of those whose genius is for cutting over.

"Well," said Mary, "I could. It ain't having 'em that teaches you to do for 'em. You either know how or you don't know how. That's all."

Mrs. Winslow reflected that she could never make Mary understand, though any mother, she thought complacently,

would know in a minute. The cutting of the coat did give her pause, but then she summed it up and included, "Mary was quiet" and let it go at that.

"I didn't know," Mrs. Winslow said then, "but what I could help some about the little boy's coming. Seven under fifteen does teach you something, you've got to allow. Maybe I could tell you something now and then. Or if we could do anything to help you get ready for him?"

"Oh," said Mary in self-possessed penitence, "thank you, Mrs. Winslow. After a come a matter. But these things new I don't mind doing. The real assistance I come afterward, I show."

Mrs. Winslow smiled in soft triumph, "Nonsense," she said. "That's what I meant, comes to you by having 'em. You don't think so much of the mistake part as you did before."

"Then you don't look the thing in the face," said Mary calmly. "That's all about that."

"Well," Mrs. Winslow said practically, "when's he coming?"

"A week from Tuesday, a week from tomorrow," Mary told her.

Mrs. Winslow looked at her intently with the light of calculation in her narrowed eyes.

"A week from Tuesday," she repeated. "A week from Tuesday," she exclaimed. "Why, Mary Chavah, that's Christmas eve."

It was some matter of recipes that was absorbing Mrs. Bates and Mrs. Moran when Mrs. Winslow breathlessly returned to them. They were deep in tradition and in method, its buttonhole relation. During the weary period when nutrition has been one of the two great problems the tremendous impulse that has nourished the world was alive in the faces of the two women, a kind of creative fire, such as had burned in Mary at the cutting of her pattern. Asparagus escalated with toast, crumbs and butter was for the moment symbol of all humanity's will to keep alive.

"Ladies," said Mrs. Winslow, with no other preface, "what do you think? Mary Chavah's little boy is coming from Idaho with a tag on, and when do you suppose he's going to get here? Christmas eve?"

"Christmas eve," repeated Mrs. Bates, whose mind never lightly forgot old ways or embraced a contretemps, "what a funny time to travel."

"Likely with the crowd and be down sick on Mary's hands the first thing," said Mrs. Moran. "It's a pity it ain't the spring of the year."

Mrs. Winslow looked at them searchingly to see if her thought too far outdistanced theirs.

"What struck me all of a heap," she said, "is his getting here then. That night, Christmas eve."

The three women looked at one another.

"That's so," Mrs. Moran said.

"Him—that child," Mrs. Winslow put it, "getting here Christmas eve, used to Christmas all his life, ten to one knowing in his head what he hopes he'll get. And no Christmas. And him with no mother. And her only a month or so dead."

"Well," said Mrs. Mortimer Bates, "it's too bad it's happened so. But it has happened so. You have to say that to your life quite often, I notice. I don't know anything to do but to say it now."

Mrs. Winslow had not taken off her cloak. She sat on the edge of her chair, her black knit "fascinator" fallen back from her hair. She was looking down at her clock overshoes, and she went on speaking as if she had hardly heard what Mrs. Bates had interposed.

"He'll get in on the express," she said; "Mary said so. She don't have to go to the city to meet him. The man he travels with is going to put him on the train in the city. The little fellow'll get here after dark. After dark on Christmas eve."

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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